

TO THE TOWN OF CHARLESTOWN.

REPORT

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON TOWN ACCOUNTS.

SAMUEL GARFIELD,

Collector, in account with the Town :

	Dr.
To Tax Bills as by assessment, 1851,	\$3,700.38
“ “ “ 1852,	4,761.82
“ “ “ 1853,	3,795.26
“ “ “ 1854,	3,985.44
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	\$16,252.90
	Cr.
By Cash paid Town Treasurer, 1851,	\$3,213.72
By Abatement of Taxes,	28.94
By Cash paid Town Treasurer, 1852,	3,129.16
By paid State and County Tax, “	887.26
By Abatement of Taxes, “	51.81
By Cash paid Town Treasurer, 1853,	2,859.29
By paid State and County Tax, “	944.63
By Cash paid Town Treasurer, 1854,	2,666.13
By paid State and County Tax, “	1,002.87
By services as Collector for four years, from 1851 to 1854, inclusive,	203.00
Balance,	1,266.09
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	\$16,252.90

GEORGE OLCOTT,

Treasurer, in account with the Town :

	Dr.
To Balance in the Treasury, March 11, 1854,	\$628.48
“ Cash as by S. Garfield, Collector,	2,666.13
“ “ J. C. Stebbins, “	52.44
“ for support of county paupers,	726.86
“ literary fund,	86.44
“ as by sales from town farm,	33.24
“ for license to showman,	30.00
“ for sale of old hearse,	5.00
“ Widow Huntley's dower,	30.00
“ as by sundry persons for highway taxes,	84.86
“ from Homer Hull's estate,	9.48
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	\$4,352.93

	Cr.
By cash for the support of schools,	\$1,213.70
" " " roads and bridges,	351.66
" " " town paupers,	598.02
" " " county "	394.09
" " expenditure on town farm,	699.96
" " abatement taxes,	15.82
" " fire proof safe,	127.46
" paid Daniel Robinson, 2d, for damage and personal injury,	32.50
" " for support of Teachers Institute,	34.52
" " " incidentals,	92.07
" " " expenditures on Cemeterys,	257.67
" " " interest on town debt,	117.00
" paid to town officers, viz:—	
Amount due last year to Henry Hubbard, jr., S. S. Com.,	10.00
Thomas Whipple, S. S. Committee,	28.46
Samuel L. Fletcher, "	12.00
George Olcott, treasurer,	25.00
Charles Messenger, town clerk,	23.03
Wm. A. Rand, overseer of town farm,	15.00
Wm. A. Rand, selectman,	78.00
C. W. Converse, "	55.50
S. H. Grinnel, "	55.75
Balance in the Treasury March 9, 1855,	115.72
	<hr/> 4,352.93

TOWN OF CHARLESTOWN,

in account with itself:

LIABILITIES.

	Dr.
Note to J. J. Hubbard,	\$1,000.00
" David Holton, and interest,	530.00
Notes to Ashbel Hamlin, and interest,	983.00
Amount of sundry outstanding orders,	314.96
Balance due school districts Nos. 2 and 3,	91.11
" " " No. 4,	131.21
" " " No. 5,	55.90
" " " No. 10,	192.91
Literary fund,	86.44
Lyman Britton, services 11 months on town farm,	207.00
Swan fund,	333.33
Sundry unsettled accounts, estimated	125.00
Excess of assets over liabilities,	1,716.42
	<hr/> \$5,767.28

ASSETS.

	Cr.
Balance in the treasury,	115.72
Town farm,	3,000.00
Personal property on town farm,	1,171.84
Balance due from S. Garfield, collector of taxes from 1851	
to 1854, inclusive,	1,269.09
Amount of railroad tax in State treasury,	210.63
	<hr/> \$5,767.28

TOWN FARM,

in account with the Town:

	Dr.
Personal property,	1,174.87
Interest on personal property,	70.49
“ “ \$3,000, cost of farm,	180.00
Services of L. Britton,	240.00
Cash paid for sundry articles for use of farm,	474.96
Wm. A. Rand, overseer,	15.00
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	\$2,155.32

	Cr.
Personal property, as by invoice selectmen, March, 1855,	1,171.84
Cash for the support of county paupers,	332.37
“ for sale of personal property,	33.24
Cost for support of poor on town farm,	617.87
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	\$2,155.32

The selectmen recommend that the town raise the ensuing year,	
For schools,	\$1,400.00
For roads and bridges,	400.00
For paupers,	700 00
For incidentals,	100.00
For cemeterys,	100.00
For town officers,	300.00
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	\$3,000.00

For highways to be paid in labor, \$1,200.00

HORACE METCALF, } *Committee on*
 SAMUEL WALKER, } *Town Accounts.*

Charlestown, March 9, 1855.

SCHOOL REPORT.

The Superintending Committee of schools for the year commencing in April, 1854, respectfully submit the following REPORT:—

DISTRICT No. 1. This district has a school Library, the first one established in our town.— The school-room is neat and convenient; it is furnished with a clock and the walls are decorated with appropriate mottos. The teacher of the summer school, Miss Rosette M. Putman, though embarrassed with the attendance of roguish boys,

conducted her school in a satisfactory manner.—The winter school was under the charge of Mr —Philips of Hubbardston, Mass., a beginner. Mr Philips showed himself capable, faithful and energetic. His exertions were rewarded with success, and appreciated by the district. We have never seen this school appear better.

HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT. Teachers—Summer, Center School, Miss C. A. Cutter; Upper School, Miss Fanny R. Carriel; Lower School, Miss Jane Gould. These schools were well conducted. Miss Cutter is a thorough and systematic teacher from whom it is hard for an idle scholar to escape with a poor lesson. Winter term. Miss Cutter commenced the Center School and was compelled by illness to leave. Mr. Alonzo L. Chatterton of Acworth has had charge of the school since. He appears to be earnest in the vocation, and maintains good discipline.

The term in the upper school has been a prosperous one. We recommend the teacher, Miss Clara F. Evans, for employment to those who may hereafter select teachers. Miss Harriet M. Parks kept the lower school. It was well conducted, and gave general satisfaction to all concerned.—Each school house is furnished with a globe, outline maps, and other apparatus.

DISTRICT No. 4. Miss Jane Labaree, teacher of the summer term, fully sustained her high and well earned reputation, and this continues to be one of our best and most advanced schools. The winter term has been a broken one. Mr. J. C. Parker, of Goshen, commenced the school and by reason of ill health closed on the third week.—Mr. Charles H. Richardson of Saxtons River Village, Vt., then taught six weeks. He was unsuccessful and his connexion with the school was dissolved by mutual consent. Mr. John D. Burge of Alstead is now engaged in the school. We

were pleased with the discipline, and the manner of instruction.

DISTRICT No. 5. The class of more advanced scholars formerly attending this school has nearly all left. Miss Elmira L. Hamlin, teacher in the summer, and Miss Catharine H. Rand in the winter, have trained up a younger class that will soon supply the loss. Both terms were successful.—We have seen no teacher's patience more severely tasked than was Miss Rand's with the restless and wayward spirits of some of those sent to her school.

DISTRICT No. 6. It is no disparagement to other schools to award to the young ladies that attended the summer term, under the instruction of Miss Rand, the merit due the most studious and advanced class we have witnessed; a merit in which the teacher should share as largely as the scholars. Mr. James R. Walker, of Springfield Vt., conducted the winter term. Mr. Walker is a faithful, skillful and experienced teacher. His school exhibited evidence of good discipline, was well arranged, and the instruction of the most approved method. The interior of the school house has been remodeled, and the school-room is inferior to none in the vicinity.

DISTRICT No. 7. The summer term, closing sooner than the committee expected, was not examined. It was under the instruction of Miss Columbia R. Frost, who is believed to have acquitted herself well, and to the approval of the district. The teacher of the winter school, Mrs. M. W. Hubbard, is one of the best in the first class of teachers, and in all the minutiae of her school room we found much to admire and nothing to disapprove.

DISTRICT No. 8. Teachers—summer, Miss Sophia C. Parks; winter Miss Rosette M. Putnam. This was Miss Parks' first essay at teaching

and she succeeded well. Miss Putnam taught here the preceding winter, and the remarks made in our last annual communication, are applicable to this term. We recommend securing a continuation of the services of successful teachers, but not for more than two successive terms.

DISTRICT No. 9. Miss Sarah Alden, of Alstead, teacher in the summer, and Miss Helen M. Richardson, of Cornish, in the winter. Under the care of these able and efficient teachers the schools have prospered; though a miserably old school house retarded, in no inconsiderable degree, a rapid advancement.

Neither summer nor winter school in District No. 10.

DISTRICT No. 11. Miss Laura A. Poland, of Paper Mill Villiage, taught in the summer.—The general appearance of her school was respectable. Miss Benson, of Walpole, commenced the winter school. Her educational qualifications were very good, and at two examinations we were favorably impressed with the manner of instruction. If censure is attached to any for the premature closing of this school, it is not to the teacher. The school since under the charge Mr. Messenger, of Stoddard has been prosperous.

DISTRICT No. 12. Teachers—summer, Miss Annette V. Putnam; winter Miss Lizzie M. Ward, of Croydon. This school is small, and the scholars rather young. Both terms were prosperous, and none of our schools has made better progress.—The last examination of the winter school was highly interesting.

DISTRICT No. 13. Miss Sarah J. Hooper taught the summer school; her literary qualifications were good; to which were joined firmness in governing and tact in teaching. The committee know of no good reason why some of the district were dissatisfied with the school. The winter

term was kept by Mr. S. W. Albee. His school was prosperous. He says in his return "that the scholars, parents and prudential committee have been united in their endeavors to promote the welfare of the school," and that he "leaves it, feeling the assurance that the inhabitants of the district will ever strive to protect the interest of the educational privileges of their children."

DISTRICT No. 14. Teaching a district school in a school-room like the one in this district, is an ordeal of no very desirable kind. Miss Harriet M. Parks, a beginner, passed this test in the summer, and Miss Sarah A. Challis the winter. Both schools were judiciously conducted, and the teachers managed to show improvement in their scholars.

DISTRICT No. 15. The scholars in this district attend a school in Claremont.

CONDENSED STATISTICS.

	No. of District.	No. of Scholars in the District.	No. of Scholars attending sch'l.	Apportionment of the School Money.	No. of w'ks in Summer Sch'l.	No. of w'ks in Winter School.	Wages of the male Teachers per month.	Wages of the female Teachers per month.
	1	35	29	115 43	15	13	\$8 00	\$16 00
High Sch'l 2 & 3	163	111	477 88	16	16	10 00	20 00	
	4	64	48	186 21	14	14	8 00	23 00
	5	27	26	95 90	14	13	6 00	
	6	53	44	159 37	12	15	7 00	23 00
	7	37	30	120 32	12	15	10 50	
	8	17	16	71 48	14	10	6 33	
	9	27	24	95 90	12	12	9 00	
	10	6		19 16	no	sch'l		
	11	24		88 58	no	rep't		
	12	16	17	69 05	12	14	6 00	
	13	23	20	86 14	10	12	6 00	20 00
	14	31	25	105 76	12	14	7 00	
	15	3	2	9 59				

Total, 526 1,700 77

Average length of Summer school, 13 weeks.

" " Winter school, 13 1-2 weeks.

It will be seen that our schools have not been so uniformly successful as the appliances at command

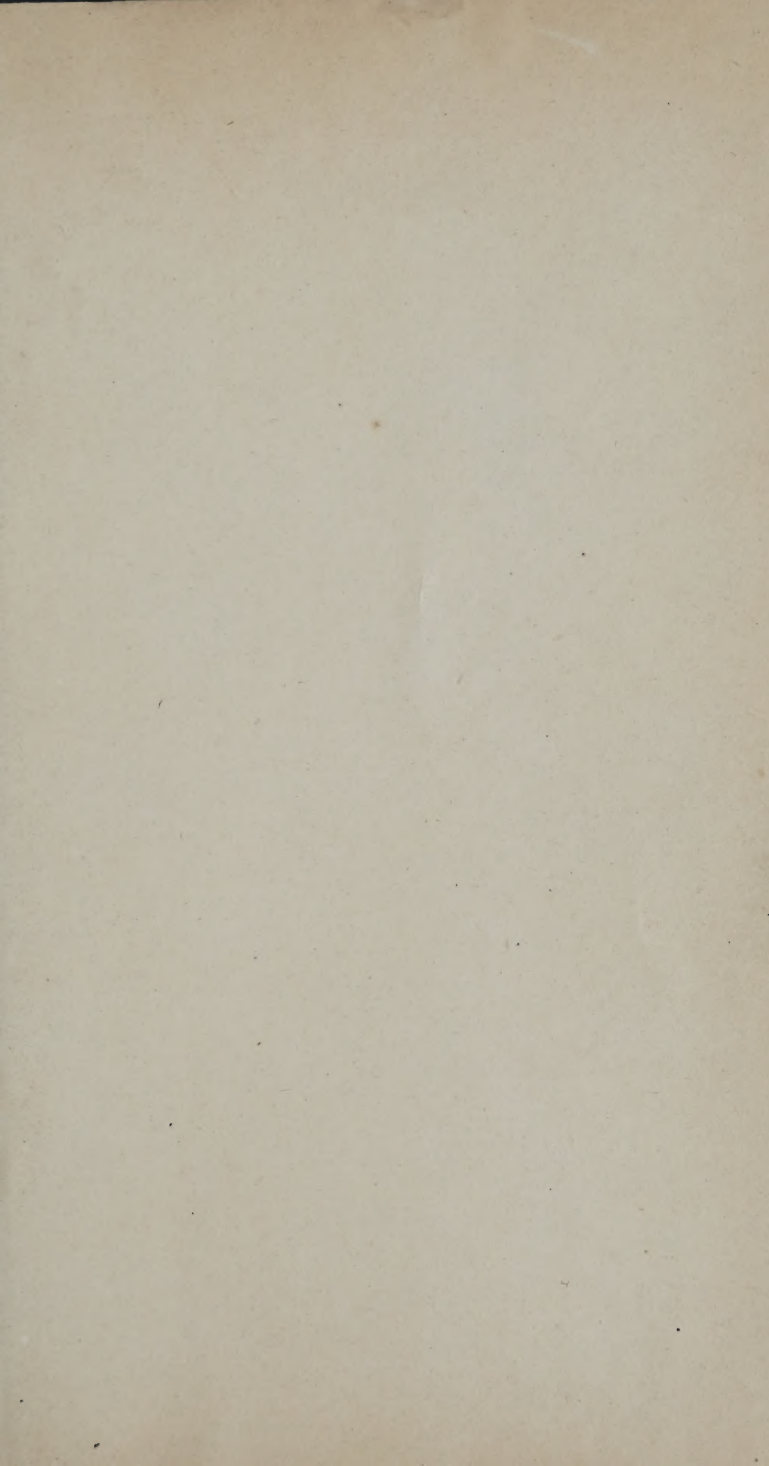
would seem to insure. Can the causes be pointed out and remedies applied? We fear that in many instances wholesome discipline is not enforced, and that too often the blame is attributable to parents. The task of public instruction is not an easy one. While we expect our teachers "to control petulance, to excite indifference to action, to strive to enlighten stupidity and labor to soften obstinacy," the teacher has a rightful claim to the sympathy and active support of the parent, and of the whole community. The teacher has the right to ask that no unfounded rumor to the disparagement of the school be circulated, and that no complaining scholar be encouraged before inquiry into the complaint. If a teacher commit faults, or is charged with one, visit the school, then reason the subject with him in private. If this course does not avail, submit in silence or take the proper course for his immediate dismissal.

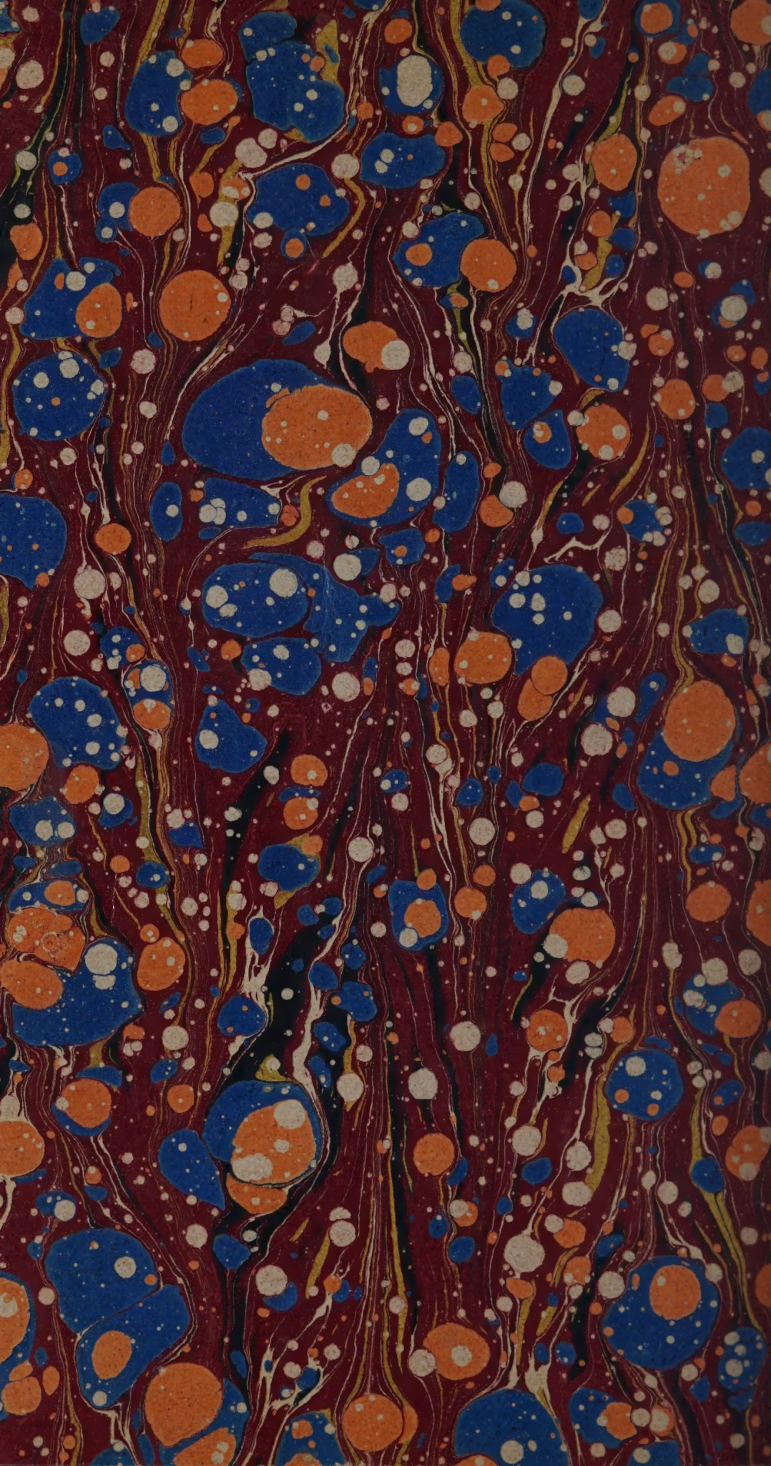
Female teachers are employed in most of our smaller winter schools, to lengthen the term, and it has been argued that the older pupils yield a more cheerful obedience to such teachers, and that parents use more influence in promoting the welfare of the school. Shall not these arguments prove true?

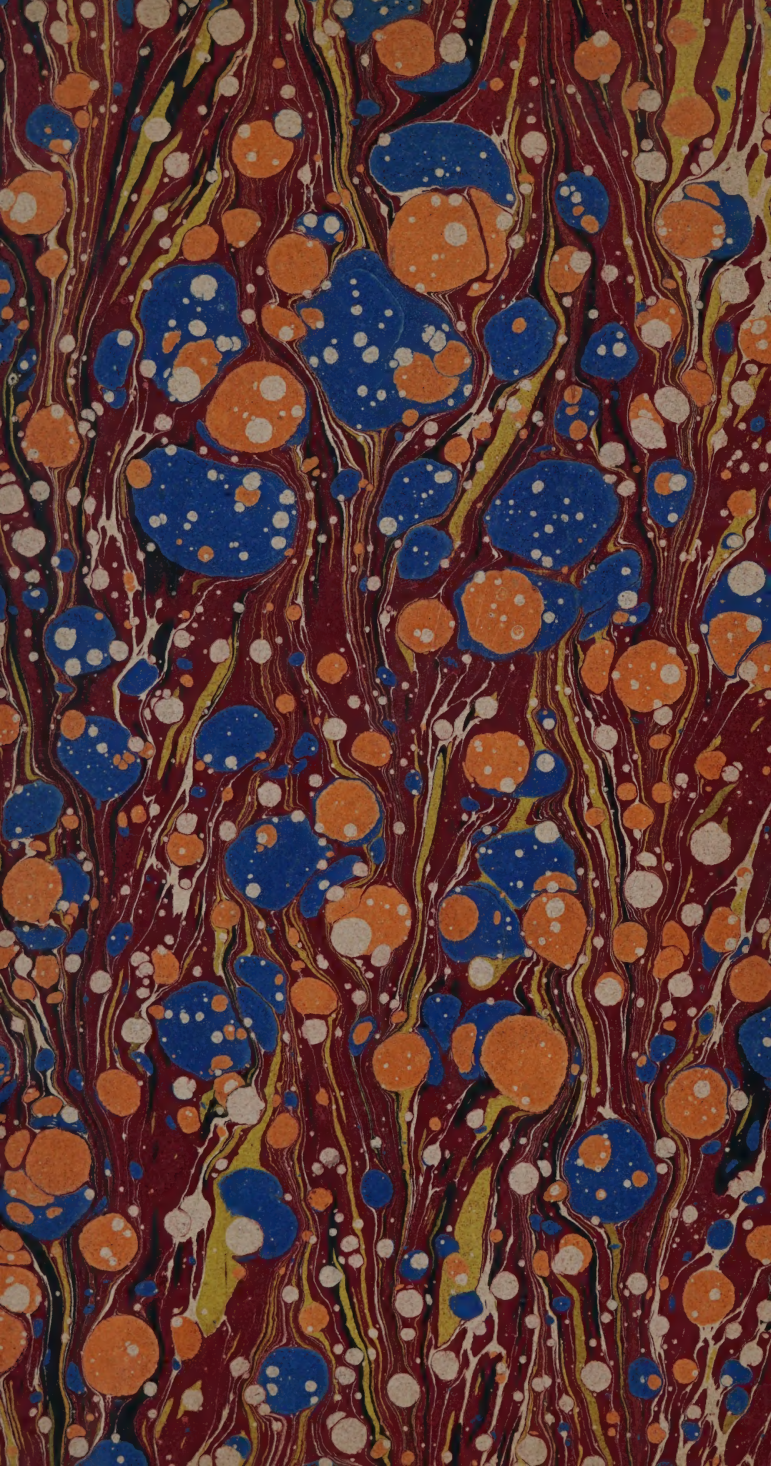
While we freely pay our money for the support of teachers' institutes we must insist that our teachers be selected from those who have attended these invaluable institutions. We do not say that a course of attendance at a teachers' institute will qualify an ignoramus for teaching, but we assert that it has never failed to make a good teacher better.

THOMAS WHIPPLE,	} Superintending	
H. HUBBARD, JR.,		School
S. L. FLETCHER,		Committee.

Charlestown, March 12, 1855.







New Hampshire State Library



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